



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

25 August 2012

Reply To

Attn Of: Coeur d'Alene Field Office
1910 Northwest Boulevard, Suite 208
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

Ms. Susan Pengilly
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer and Compliance Coordinator
Idaho State Historical Society
2205 Old Penitentiary Road
Boise, ID 83712

RE: Results of Cultural Resources Survey of the Avery Landing Superfund Site,
Shoshone County, Idaho

Dear Ms. Pengilly:

The purpose of this letter is to convey the results of the 2012 cultural resources survey for the Avery Landing Superfund Site (Site) located in Shoshone County, Idaho.

Applied Archaeological Research, Inc. (AAR) conducted a Class I inventory (literature review) of the Site in 2010. Copies of the report from that work dated 23 December 2010 were provided to the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on 6 April 2011. EPA requested that the SHPO review the report and provide any comments to EPA about the conclusions and recommendations of AAR. In a letter dated 21 April 2011, the SHPO concurred with the recommendation of AAR to conduct a pedestrian survey and archaeological field study of the Site. The SHPO also requested that EPA perform some additional field activities and provide further recommendations for addressing potentially historic properties at the Site.

A pedestrian survey and associated fieldwork was conducted by AAR during May 2012. The recommendations from the Class 1 inventory (literature review) report, including the additional field activities requested by the SHPO, were either performed or taken into account by AAR during the survey and fieldwork. Two copies of the Results of a Cultural Resources Survey of the Avery Landing Project Area, Shoshone County, Idaho (CRS) developed by AAR dated 20 July 2012 and one copy in PDF on a compact disc are enclosed with this letter.

EPA initiated cleanup of the Site in June 2012. As you may be aware, the Site presents a continuing source of oil and hazardous substances contamination to the adjacent St. Joe River. Prior to conducting cleanup work, EPA was made aware by AAR that a total of four potentially historic features related to the roundhouse and turntable of the former railroad had been identified during the pedestrian survey and fieldwork.

There has been no cleanup work conducted in the immediate area of the four identified features. If it is possible to do so, EPA currently anticipates taking into account any timely comments provided by the SHPO during performance of this work. With one exception and to the extent practicable taking into account the exigencies of the Site, EPA plans to address the contamination in this area while following the procedures recommended in the CRS. In this regard, EPA is currently intending to have a monitor present during the surface level excavation work in this area and to otherwise have the cleanup work implemented in the manner identified in the CRS. Due to the nature of the contamination and contours at this Site, as well as the associated costs, EPA will not be able to accommodate the halting of cleanup work as far as 100 feet away from the discovery or observation of a potentially important feature.

EPA would appreciate receiving any comments the SHPO may have on the CRS and the explanation of our cleanup work provided in this letter within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.

Thank you for your continued consultation assistance in this matter, and do not hesitate to contact me at 208.664.4858 or liverman.earl@epa.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Earl Liverman
Federal On-Scene Coordinator

Cc: Richard Mednick, EPA